

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following *new* paragraph on page 1, between lines 2 and 3:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This U.S. National stage application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(a) to Japanese Patent Application No. 2004-195229, filed in Japan on July 1, 2004 the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 8 with the following rewritten version:

Conventionally, there has been a refrigerating apparatus disposed with a vapor compression-type refrigerant circuit including a heat exchanger configured such that refrigerant flows in from below and flows out from above as an evaporator of the refrigerant (e.g., see ~~Patent Document 1~~ Japanese Patent Application Publication No. S63-204074). In order to prevent refrigerating machine oil from accumulating inside the evaporator, the refrigerating apparatus is configured to extract, from the vicinity of the surface of the refrigerant, the refrigerating machine oil accumulating in a state where it floats on the surface of the refrigerant as a result of the refrigerating machine oil and the refrigerant separating into two layers because the specific gravity of the refrigerating machine oil is smaller than that of the refrigerant, and to return the refrigerating machine oil to the intake side of the compressor.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 18 with the following rewritten version:

Further, as an example of a refrigerating apparatus disposed with a vapor compression-type refrigerant circuit, there is an air conditioner disposed with a vapor compression-type refrigerant circuit including: a heat source refrigerant circuit including plural heat source heat exchangers; and plural utilization refrigerant circuits connected to the

heat source refrigerant circuit (e.g., see ~~Patent Document 2~~ Japanese Patent Application Publication No. H03-260561). In this air conditioner, heat source expansion valves are disposed so that the flow rate of the refrigerant flowing into the heat source heat exchangers can be regulated. Additionally, in this air conditioner, when the heat source heat exchangers are caused to function as evaporators during a heating operation or during a simultaneous cooling and heating operation, for example, control is conducted to reduce the evaporating ability by reducing the openings of the heat source expansion valves as the overall air conditioning load of the plural utilization refrigerant circuits becomes smaller. Moreover, when the overall air conditioning load of the plural utilization refrigerant circuits becomes extremely small, control is conducted to reduce the evaporating ability by closing some of the plural heat source expansion valves to reduce the number of heat source heat exchangers functioning as evaporators or to reduce the evaporating ability by causing some of the plural heat source heat exchangers to function as condensers to offset the evaporating ability of the heat source heat exchangers functioning as evaporators.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 2 with the following rewritten version:

Further, in the aforementioned air conditioner, when the heat source heat exchangers are caused to function as condensers during a cooling operation or during the simultaneous cooling and heating operation, control is conducted to reduce the condensing ability by increasing the amount of liquid refrigerant accumulating inside the heat source heat exchangers and reducing the substantial heat transfer area by reducing the openings of the heat source expansion valves connected to the heat source heat exchangers as the overall air conditioning load of the plural utilization refrigerant circuits becomes smaller. However, when control is conducted to reduce the openings of the heat source expansion valves, there is the problem that there is a tendency for the refrigerant pressure downstream of the heat source expansion valves (specifically, between the heat source expansion valves and the plural utilization refrigerant circuits) to drop and become unstable, and control to reduce the condensing ability of the heat source refrigerant circuit cannot be stably conducted. In order

to counter this problem, control has been proposed to raise the refrigerant pressure downstream of the heat source expansion valves by disposing a pressurizing circuit that causes high-pressure gas refrigerant compressed by the compressor to merge with refrigerant whose pressure has been reduced in the heat source expansion valves and is sent to the utilization refrigerant circuits (e.g., see ~~Patent Document 3~~ Japanese Patent Application Publication No. H03-129259).

Please remove the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 19 as follows:

~~Patent Document 1~~

~~Japanese Patent Application Publication No. S63-204074~~

~~Patent Document 2~~

~~Japanese Patent Application Publication No. H03-260561~~

~~Patent Document 3~~

~~Japanese Patent Application Publication No. H03-129259~~

Please replace the heading at page 2, line 25, with the following rewritten version:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION ~~DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 14 with the following rewritten version:

An air conditioner pertaining to a first aspect of the present invention comprises a heat source refrigerant circuit, one or more utilization refrigerant circuits, a pressurizing circuit, and a cooler. The heat source refrigerant circuit is configured by the interconnection of a compression mechanism, a heat source heat exchanger, and a heat source expansion valve that reduces the pressure of refrigerant condensed in the heat source heat exchanger when the heat source heat exchanger functions as a condenser. The utilization refrigerant circuits are connected to the heat source refrigerant circuit and configured by the interconnection of utilization heat exchangers and utilization expansion valves. The pressurizing circuit is

disposed in the heat source refrigerant circuit and causes high-pressure gas refrigerant compressed in the compression mechanism to merge with refrigerant whose pressure is reduced in the heat source expansion valve and which is sent to the utilization refrigerant circuits. The cooler cools the refrigerant whose pressure is reduced in the heat source expansion valve and which is sent to the utilization refrigerant circuits.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 1 with the following rewritten version:

An air conditioner pertaining to a second aspect of the present invention comprises the air conditioner pertaining to the first aspect of the present invention, wherein the pressurizing circuit is connected between the heat source expansion valve and the cooler such that the high-pressure gas refrigerant merges.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 10 with the following rewritten version:

An air conditioner pertaining to a third aspect of the present invention comprises the air conditioner pertaining to the first or second aspect of the present invention, further comprising a cooling circuit connected to the heat source refrigerant circuit such that some of the refrigerant sent from the heat source heat exchanger to the utilization refrigerant circuits branches from the heat source refrigerant circuit and is introduced to the cooler, and the cooler cools the refrigerant whose pressure is reduced in the heat source expansion valve and which is sent to the utilization refrigerant circuits and thereafter returns the cooled refrigerant to an intake side of the compression mechanism.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 26 with the following rewritten version:

An air conditioner pertaining to a fourth aspect of the present invention comprises the air conditioner pertaining to any of the first to third ~~inventions~~ aspects of the present invention, wherein the heat source heat exchanger can function as an evaporator configured such that the refrigerant flows in from below and flows out from above. The air conditioner uses a combination of refrigerating machine oil and refrigerant that does not separate into two layers in a temperature range of 30°C or below. The air conditioner further comprises an oil returning circuit that is connected to a lower portion of the heat source heat exchanger and returns the refrigerating machine oil accumulating inside the heat source heat exchanger to the compression mechanism together with the refrigerant.

Please remove the heading at page 9, line 16, as follows:

~~DESCRIPTION OF REFERENCE NUMERALS~~

Please remove the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 17 as follows:

- ~~1 — Air Conditioner (Refrigerating Apparatus)~~
- ~~12 — Refrigerant Circuit~~
- ~~12a, 12b, 12c — Utilization Refrigerant Circuits~~
- ~~12d — Heat Source Refrigerant Circuit~~
- ~~21 — Compression Mechanism~~
- ~~23 — Heat Source Heat Exchanger (Evaporator)~~
- ~~24 — Heat Source Expansion Valve (Expansion Valve)~~
- ~~31, 41, 51 — Utilization Expansion Valves~~
- ~~32, 42, 52 — Utilization Heat Exchangers (Condensers)~~
- ~~101 — First Oil Returning Circuit (Oil Returning Circuit)~~
- ~~101b — Control Valve~~
- ~~111 — Pressurizing Circuit~~

~~121—Cooler~~

~~122—Cooling Circuit~~

Please replace the heading at page 9, line 31, with the following rewritten version:

~~BEST MODES FOR CARRYING OUT~~ DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE
INVENTION

Please add the following new heading at page 47, between line 1 and 2:

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: